

MINUTES

Behavioral Health Advisory Board
Clallam County Courthouse
Virtual via Zoom
March 8, 2022
3:00 pm-5:00 pm

Voting Members Present: John DeBoer, Helen Kenoyer, Tom Stokes,
Christina Miko, Amy Bundy, Don Lawley, Grace Bell, Tayler
McCrorie

Non-voting members present: Kevin LoPiccolo, Kirsten Poole, Stephanie Lewis, Wendy Sisk,
Kristina Bullington

Absent: Travis Hedin, Bruce Fernie, Jody Jacobsen

General Attendance: Christine Dunn, Kate Ingram, Jenny Oppelt, Daniel Montana,
Brian Gerdes, Kristin Fox, Ken Dubuc, Scott Brandon, Don Wenzl

1. **Welcome and Introductions** – The meeting was called to order at 3:00 p.m.
2. **Agenda** – Majority approved the agenda with one modification, changed to reflect 2022 for the year on line 3.
3. **Minutes** – Majority approved the minutes from February 8, 2022.
4. **Old Business**
 - Review of the By-laws discussion: The group felt that it was appropriate to continue having standing members as non-voting members. All standing members (non-voting) are Clallam County employees. There were some clarification changes made to the County positions. The Sheriff's Office was moved to standing non-voting member. The Director of Juvenile Services was shifted to representative of Juvenile Services which would allow the Director to appoint someone to that position or serve in that role themselves. Therapeutic Court was changed to Therapeutic Courts as Superior court is not the only therapeutic court receiving funding. This includes Mental Health, Drug and Lift courts to be considered for representation. The two designated representatives from an agency that delivers subsidized mental health services and subsidized substance use disorder services was also moved to voting members. The Regional Administrator for the Salish Behavioral Health Administration Services Organization standing member (non-voting) position was proposed to be removed. Due to the shift in managed care

organizations and the role that the SBH-ASO has now in funding has shifted over time, the sub-committee felt if the position was left then it would be appropriate to include a position for Managed Care Organizations and the logistics of that did not feel beneficial. It was suggested in lieu of the SBH-ASO position a representative of the SBH-ASO Advisory Board hold a position. The subcommittee will discuss this further.

- Removed was the statement that voting members must “be residents of Clallam County or represent services in Clallam County”. Members of the Behavioral Health Advisory Board shall reside in Clallam County was added. Under Terms, if no suitable replacement applies, members may apply to extend their service on the board for another term. Discussion followed and “All suitable applicants, including the incumbent may be considered for the open position. If no suitable replacement applies for membership, members may apply to extend their service on the board for another term.” was agreed on. Co-chair was changed from Director to Deputy Director of Clallam County Health & Human Services to align with the organization of the department. Meetings shall be scheduled bi-monthly, with additional meetings scheduled as needed. In the Voting section, the language was amended to remove the term “discussion” in regards to matters before the board. This would allow current voting members to discuss topics that they may have a potential conflict of interest, but they would need to refrain from voting on such matters. In addition, in regards to board members identifying any potential conflicts of interest, the language stating “but also from all discussion and/or debate around the issues at hand before voting occurs” was struck. The sub-committee felt that it was appropriate for all members to be able to engage in discussion but to recuse themselves from voting where appropriate.
- The need for further discussion around excused and unexcused absences was brought up as the number of meetings per year has changed. It was suggested that a clearer definition be added for excused and unexcused absences.
- Vacancies: Tribal Representative and Services for the Homeless, outreach and advertising will continue. At this time no applications have been received.

5. New Business

- Presentations:
 - Community Paramedicine Program – Kristen Fox spoke of the Harm Reduction Program, they are preparing to put sharps containers in the community in high risk areas such as parks which also gives access to those with diabetes. Health & Human Services has agreed to dispose of the needles. 12 containers will be put up to start with and community paramedics will be checking them weekly. Daniel Montana spoke about their effort to maintain the needle exchange program on the streets. Community paramedics all carry clean needles, they aim to talk with individuals they encounter and let them know community paramedics will take the used needles also. Communication has occurred with PBH regarding telehealth medicine for people that do not know how to use or have access to technology or struggle with face to face visits. Brian Gerdes stated community

paramedics will be working with Clallam County Therapeutic Court, help monitor people in the field, provide injectable medication and other assistance to keep people on track and out of jail. Last year community paramedics tracked over 800 clients needing services from different agencies around the county. They had 460 referrals from different agencies and provided about 1200 responses for those referrals. Reduced emergency department over utilization by 70% and 911 over utilization by 80% in the population that usually require community paramedic services. They provided vaccination clinics for first responder, city staff, physicians and nurses and anyone that could not get them elsewhere. They provided assistance to the Port Angeles High School vaccination clinic, provided vaccination clinics in Clallam Bay and long term care facilities across the county. Vaccinated over 650 people including home bound patients that were referred by Clallam County Health & Human Services Department. During the weeks of cold weather, the City of Port Angeles put together a shelter at the Senior Center and we were able to shelter 25 people experiencing homelessness per night. They also provide classes, first aid and CPR to the police department. They are currently working toward obtaining a HIPAA compliant referral and communication system. Lastly, they reported openings for paramedics and directed people to visit the City of Port Angeles website to inquire.

- Olympic Peninsula Community Clinic (OPCC): Scott Brandon reported working with the Community Paramedicine Early Intervention Program this year to provide ongoing case management. Community paramedics are able to do things that OPCC are unable to do. OPCC provides the case management, reaching out to organizations, searching for services and in some cases, the hand holding that some people need in order to reduce the emergencies of the population they serve. The start of this program lead to the start of a pilot program in Kitsap County, in the city of Poulsbo called the Fire Cares Program. The model that was designed here was followed and has lead OPCC to work with the Fire Department to create a pilot for the world's first LEAD Fire Program. The department is working with the LEAD National Bureau to take some of the final steps to implement the program that got its start through our Community Paramedic Early Intervention Program. The Early Intervention and Outreach Navigation Program includes a co-response component. OPCC does proactive outreach and also co-responds with the Port Angeles Police Department, Clallam County Sheriff's Department, Sequim Police Department, and Clallam County Code Enforcement to identify people who may not know what services are available or cannot access those services on their own and works with them to get the help they need. OPCC's mission as a program and a clinic is to create opportunities for better health outcomes and to create an environment for better lives. Finally OPCC has a Behavioral Health Case Management Program for those people who have the most intense needs. This program has two components; one is the Light Touch and an Intensive Program. In the Intensive Program OPCC works closely with participants, sometimes daily, providing assistance identifying needed services, accessing those services, providing transportation and in some cases support and goods and then working with them to create a more stable environment, so that

they can then take steps to work on their own. The Light Touch Program is for those who don't have quite as intense needs, but still need some coaching, reminders, encouragement and assistance. Last year OPCC made over 10,026 individual meaningful contacts, needs were talked about and out of those, 3,667 referrals to services were made and 1,950 connections to service. In 2021 OPCC's connection rate was 53.2%. For those that are in the intensive care program, OPCC would go to where they are living, pick them up, take them to their appointments, and work with them to ensure that they receive services. In the 4th quarter the connection rate was 96%. OPCC's Early Intervention Program laid the ground for the MOUD grant in conjunction with the jail, which will allow people who are exiting the jail to access those services. It also lead to a partnership with HHS to give some work on the Overdose Data to Action (OD2A) project, where OPCC follows up on people who have overdosed and with families to offer services and support.

6. Future Meeting Agendas

- April 12th Meeting:
 - Pending confirmation of availability: Jamestown Healing Clinic Presentation

7. Public Comment

- None

8. Announcements

- Jenny Oppelt announced and welcomed Christine Dunn who is newly in the role of Behavioral Health and Homelessness Program Coordinator

9. Adjourn: Meeting adjourned at 4:15 pm

Next meeting: April 12, 2022

Voting Members: Amy Bundy, Grace Bell, John DeBoer, Bruce Fernie, Travis Hedin, Helen Kenoyer, Don Lawley, Tayler McCrorie, Christina Miko, Tom Stokes

Non-Voting Members: Kristina Bullington, Jody Jacobson, Stephanie Lewis, Kevin LoPiccolo, Kirsten Poole, Wendy Sisk